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COUNTRY Free Territory of Triente

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SUBJECT

Slovene and Croat Administration for Trieste;

Military Detachments; Lumber Shipments

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SOURCE

- 1. It appears, if it is not already in process, that the Yugoslav Zone of the Free Territory of Trieste is to be divided into two distinct administrations; a Slovene one at Capodistria (controlled by Ljubljana); a Croat one at Buie (controlled by Zagreb). The Slovene administration will have jurisdiction over the area extending from Capodistria to Punta Salvore-Castelvenere and the boundary. The Croat administration, on the other hand, will have jurisdiction over the remaining territory. These two administrations were already functioning before the Peace Treaty went into effect and only later on they merged into a single one with headquarters at Capodistria. It is believed that the reason for this change is that inside the administration there are two different Communist factions, one Slovene and one Croat, which, even though favoring Tito's Government, are very often in complete disagreement on the policy to be followed and, therefore, the authorities have come to the decision to split the Zone into two parts to be administered separately.
- 2. Military detachments in the Tugoslav Zone of the Free Territory of Trieste have been considerably reduced during January. The mid-January strength of the detachments are summarized as follows: Capodistria 800 to 1,000 men; Umago 200 men; Isola 700 to 800 men; Pirano 300 to 400 men; Buie 150 to 200 men; Verteneghis 20 to 30 men. These figures do not include, however, some small detachments which are in country areas.
- 3. For several weeks large shipments of lumber have been arriving at Capodistria for the Yugoslav firm "Bor". Said firm, that already had a lumber-yard at the Capodistria railroad station (space already fully occupied by large stacks of lumber arrived some months ago), has been compelled to pile up this newly arrived lumber, amounting to several thousand cubic meters, at the Capodistria harbor (thus occupying a good part of the quay) and on the ground of the former "Istria" shipyard located in Via dello Squero.

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